District 7 hosts annual Muster-In Day celebration
Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

In honor of the commitment and support to the U.S. Army, District 7 hosted the 152nd Annual Muster-In Day Celebration on Sept. 9.

District 7 veteran Alfred “Fred” Reams Sr., who, on the eve of his 85th birthday, received the honor of being this year’s grand marshal.

Reams said it was a surprise to see that he was picked to be the grand marshal, but said there are many veterans that are deserving of being recognized for their military service.

He said being a paratrooper in the 187th Regimental Combat Team known as the “Rakkasan” was a tough assignment. His team trained in Japan in preparation for the Korean War.

“When I started to look into my records it all started coming back, my time in the service, education in which I went to Arizona State University for a business degree,” Reams said.

When Reams returned home after military service, he obtained his high school diploma from Phoenix Indian School and started a family that took him from the west end of the Community to Sacaton, where he worked in numerous administrative positions within tribal government.

Reams said he was committed to his work with the Community, and above all treated people with respect.

Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis recognized Reams for his service and dedication.

“Mr. Reams is a point of pride for our Community for all that he is done,” said Lewis. “He really epitomizes what being a veteran and leader for our Community is all about.”

In recognition of Reams’ service in the military and to the Community, Lewis called for a round of applause and went on to say Reams was instrumental on many of the Community’s initiatives.

“It’s a point of pride for our Community the annual muster-in day event, to see the showing of support for this event,” said Lewis.

Lance Lewis, District 7 staff and recreation committee that had a hand in organizing the event.

He said, “You really can’t have these types of events, without the dedicated workers, who believe in keeping alive the memory of the Muster-In Day is all about.”

“We have a military alliance that goes back over a hundred years as part of the commodities agreement between the Pee Posh and Akimel O’otham, who came together for a common purpose, which was to protect the people—history is very important, especially today, when we see our veterans, who answer the call, just like [they] did then.”

Continued on Page 4

Inaugural Gila River Veterans Conference provides resources to local veterans

District 7 Summer Bash
Page 3
Friday Night Drags at Wildhorse Pass Motorsports Park
Page 4
GRPD Incident Logs
Page 5
Huhugam Heritage Center
Page 7
Emergency response staff saves patron at casino
Page 9
NABA-AZ awards scholarships
Page 10
Suicide Prevention workshop
Page 11
District 6 Elders visit L.A.
Page 15
GRBC Broadcast Viewer Guide
Page 14
Community Council Action Sheets: Sept. 6, 2017
Page 15
Beginning early October 2017, Gila River Health Care will launch a new electronic health record software system across all facilities.

**Benefits to Making the Change**
This new software will replace an outdated system to improve compliance, communication reporting, and billing throughout Gila River Health Care.

**What This Means to Patients**
You may temporarily experience longer-than-expected wait times while transitioning to the new software. We respectfully ask that patients work with us as we improve this process. We will make every effort to make this transition period as brief as possible. We appreciate your patience.

**Should You Have Any Questions, Please Contact the Customer Service Department at (602) 528-1424 or Visit GRHC.org.**

**Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**

**It’s easy!**
- Log into your personal Facebook page.
- Go to “View Your Profile.”
- Tap on your profile pic and click “Add Frame.”
- Scroll down until you see the new “Y2L!” logo’d frame and add the frame.

For more information about September activities or training opportunities, please contact GRHC Behavioral Health Services at (520) 562-3321 ext. 7157 or 3936. **If You or Someone You Love Needs Help, Call 911 or the Gila River Crisis Line at 1-800-259-3449.**

**“Yes to Life!” September Events**

**Upcoming Tribal Lot Inspections**

Beginning October 2, 2017, The Department of Land Use Planning & Zoning will conduct Tribal Lot Inspections throughout The Gila River Indian Community.

**RUF AMPHITHEATER**

**Live Cage Fights**

- **Sat, Sept 23 | 5:30pm–9pm | All Ages Welcome**
- **General Admission $25 | Cageside Seats $40**
- **Vip Hightop $100 | Vip Table $300**

For more information please visit UltraStarAZ.com or call 520-233-2421
**Team Jujudam of District 5 came in first place.**

**Thomas R. Throssell**  
Gila River Indian News

As the clock wound down to the championship game’s final seconds between District 5’s Jujudam and San Xavier’s White Doves, an audience huddled around the chair volleyball court in quiet anticipation.

Two teams, each made up of six players, concentrated on a large purple volleyball as it sailed over the net towards the White Doves, who attempted to repel the heavy handed serve. In the end the pink shirted Doves were unsuccessful in claiming victory and the blue shirted Jujudam were crowned champions of the 10th Annual District 5 Senior Summer Bash Elder Chair Volleyball Tournament.

While the championship game was the culmination of this year’s Summer Bash, the day began early with a continental breakfast, and was filled with numerous games played between 20 teams representing the Gila River Indian Community, the Tohono O’odham Nation, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Ak-Chin Indian Community, and Fort McDowell Yaqui Nation.

GRIC’s Communications and Public Affairs Office supplied box lunches to the elders, while members of the Gila River Fire Department, Gila River Emergency Medical Services, and Gila River Police Department served popcorn and snow cones.

Reba Manuel, District 5 Elderly Coordinator and event organizer, said the tournament was an opportunity to get elders together and participate in a game they all enjoy.

“It’s a good work out for them,” said Manuel. “I think when (chair volleyball) started, it just started from a recreational fun thing, then the competitiveness kicked in. It is good for them, it is social and for many of the elders they grew up with and be part of a team, they really enjoy it,” she said.

Manuel said the District 3 elders, who have three volleyball teams, decided to forgo the tournament in order to help put on theSacaton Flats next week.

Russell Hendricks of Vamori Village in the Tohono O’odham Nation came out with his team called the Chukut Kuk Hooters. While they were unable to reach a top spot in the tournament, they were happy to be a part of the day’s festivities.

Hendricks said he has been playing chair volleyball for three years and likes taking part in the weekly practices with his team.

“I like it, it is something to do, something to look forward to on Tuesdays and Thursdays when we practice,” said Hendricks. “I like going out to different places for the tournaments, it is very interesting meeting other people from other tribes, making new friends.”

As the Summer Bash came to a close, the District 5 Jujudam took first place, San Xavier’s White Dove’s second place, and District 5’s Mustangs took third place.

To learn more about activities going on at the District 3 Service Center or if you are interested in getting involved in the Elder and Recreation Programs, call (520) 562-2704.

District 3 Summer Bash spikes off with competitive tournament

**Team White Doves from San Xavier came in second place.**

**Thomas R. Throssell**  
Gila River Indian News

Springs, and are already planning their next trip to a tournament in Sacaton Flats next week.

**Team White Doves from San Xavier came in second place.**

**Thomas R. Throssell**  
Gila River Indian News
The three singing groups who kept the dancers moving were, Singing & Dancing by the River, San Juan Kuäli:ya dance group and a bird dancing and signing social. The packed day of events included a 2-mile run and walk and an abundance of activities for community members to revel in to stay entertained throughout the day.

The day included a slew of traditional dancers and singers along with evening entertainment performed by Midnight Run and Two Rivers.

A horse shoe tournament also took place while parents and their children cooled off at the splash pad.

The three singing groups were looking to race your own vehicle or just want to view the action close up, the awe and excitement of incredible power and speed. Whether you are testing your vehicle’s mettle, or just want to have a good time witnessing the thrill of a drag race, come down to Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park’s Friday Night Drags and cure your need for speed.

All Gila River Indian Community members receive 50 percent off any WHPMP events. Friday Night Drags general admission is $15 for spectators and free for all children 12 years old and younger, as long as a paying adult accompanies them.

The next Friday Night Drags will be held on Sept. 22.

For more information contact WHPMP at (520) 796-5601.
The vehicle and driver were later located in the city of Casa Grande.

District Six: Aggravated Assault
The suspect was arrested after he Struck the driver with a brick while trying to escape.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven: No incidents regarding Part 1 crime.

August 27 – September 2, 2017
Calls for services this week: 717, Arrest made: 65

District One (Blackwater):
Theft – The victim called to report someone had taken his yellow push lawn edger from his back patio. There are distinct markers on the front of the lawn edger which will make it identifiable. Some evidence was recovered on scene.

Status: Under Investigation

Theft – The victim reported his license plate was taken from his vehicle while he resided at his residence. The license plate was entered into NCIC (National Crime Information Center) as stolen.

Status: Under Investigation

District Two (Sicotom Area):
Theft – Officers responded to a call regarding items which were taken from a commercial lot. The investigation revealed the lock had been broken off by the suspect which allowed him to gain entry. The suspect(s) took items and caused damage to a storage facility on the lot. Some evidence was recovered and booked into evidence for processing.

Status: Under Investigation

District Three (Sacaton):
Aggravated Assault – Juvenile adult male committed aggravated assault by cutting the right hand of his step father with a razor cutter. The victim stated that the cut was not a serious injury and refused medical attention. The box was recovered; evidence was collected and booked into evidence.

Status: The subject was booked into DRCS.

Burglary – Two hand drills were taken from the storage area at the First Pima Baptist Church. The reporting party stated there had been previous thefts and that safety precautions are being taken.

Status: Open Investigation

District Four (Lone Butte Area):
Shoplifting– Officers were dispatched to Tom- my Hilfiger Store at the Phoenix Premium Outlet for a shoplifting call. The investigation revealed a male suspect removed a security tag from the pants while in a fitting room. The suspect then walked out of the store without paying for the items.

Status: Open Investigation

Theft – The victim reported his bike was stolen while he was at the Lone Butte Casino. The victim reported that he had left it and it could not be located.

Status: Open Investigation

Shoplifting – Officers were at the Phoenix Premium Outlet when three suspects were observed walking towards the parking lot. Officers ad- vised the three females had just stolen from the store. One female took the items while the other two were her “look outs.”

Status: Open Investigation

District Five (Casa Grande):
Burglary – The victim called dispatch to report a burglary. The investigation revealed that a window did not be located outside they observed their mailbox on the ground. Evidence was collected and submitted for processing.

Status: Under Investigation

Burglary – Officer responded to a burglary call. Upon further investigation it was discovered that two televisions were taken from a storage area at the victim’s residence. Damages were observed to the door as well as the locking mechanism.

Status: Under Investigation

District Six (Komatke):
Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to shots fired in the area through multiple callers. By the time the information was retrieved it was discovered a male subject had also been shot. Upon the officer’s arrival they were able to locate the victim and other individuals who were at the residence.

The victim was transported to an area hospital where they received further medical treatment.

Status: Under Investigation

Aggravated Assault – Officers were dispatched to a residence in reference to subjects in front of the residence who were fighting. Information was received that a loud noise occurred and when the individual went outside they observed their mailbox on the ground. Evidence was collected and submitted for processing.

Status: Under Investigation

District Seven (Maricopa):
No incidents involving Part 1 crime.
Robert Roe “Bobby” Lewis Obituary

Robert’s father was the late Reverend Dr. Roe Blaine Lewis of Lower San Tan Village District 4 of the Gila River Indian Community and his mother was the late Sally Elizabeth Lewis of Parker.

He is also survived by two brothers, Robert Blaine Lewis, former general counsel of the Gila River Indian Community and John Lewis, former Executive Director of the Inter-tribal Council of Arizona. Robert and his brother, Robert, attended the Gila Co-op Village, started July 5, 1952 in Phoenix, went to a cosmetology school; after finishing we extend our thanks:

Robert married Betty Pablo, where he was the Father of the Minister of the Vah-ki Presbyterian Church for many years. While growing up in Casa Blanca Robert was known as “Bobby” to his family and friends.

Robert graduated from Arizona State University, and secondly graduated from Whittier College, Spocane, WA, with a B.A. in Psychology. Mr Lewis also earned a Master’s degree in Social Work from Arizona State University.

Robert was an outstanding middle distance runner for the Whittier varsity track team.

Robert served in the U.S. Army and was an intelligence analyst and stationed in Fort Bragg, NC. He was assigned to the United States Army Special Center, Gila River Police Department, Margro Hunsicker, Tribal Social Services, Vah-ki Presbyterian Church and Choir, Lower Santan Presbyterian Church, Sacaton Flats Presbyterian Church, Elders and Deacons Assocation, Elders and Deacons Combined Board, Captain Anthony’s Catholc Church, Sacaton Presbyterian Church Choir, and was also the first Native American representative to their alumni association.

Robert was a probation officer for Pinal County working with young offenders prior to being inducted into the Army. After serving in the U.S. Army he was employed by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community first as a director of the youth home and subsequently as director of the community social services program. He worked for SRPMIC for over 30 years.

Robert developed and administered the first edition of the Bureau of Indian Affairs social services programs to an Indian tribe. He worked on the advisory board for the school of social work at ASU where he was also an Adjunct Instructor, and was also the Goodyear Presbyterian Church Choir, Gila Crossing Presbyterian Church Choir, Mr. Emie Lucero, Ira Hayes Post, Haskell Osife Post, Peapod Veteran Association, The Honorable Delbert Ray, President, SRPMIC, The Honorable Paul Smith, former President, SRPMIC, The Honorable Ivan Makil, former President, SRPMIC, Mr. Ed Gonzalez, ASU School of Social Work, Mr. Jacob Moore, ASU President’s Office, Wally Jones, Vah-ki Presbyterian Church, Ms. Amelia Flores, Rev. Martha Sodongail, Manuel Johnson, Jay Johnson, Mr. Joe Kunkle, Special Thanks To: Mr. Wayne Delove and family, The Dixon family, Leberta Collins, and Deacons Combined Board.

Robert was active in the Presbyterian Church (USA) as an elder and a member of the choir for Central Presbyterian Church in Phoenix, AZ. He was Associate for Native American Ministries for the Grand Canyon Presbytery, and served on the Synod of the Southwest’s Native American Consulting Committee. He was the first Native American moderator of the Grand Canyon Presbytery. He also served on the Presbyterian General Assembly Mission Council, the highest ruling body of the Presbyterian Church. He was also a chairman of the Board of Directors of the Cook Christian Training School, in Tempe, AZ.

Wake services were held Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at the District 5 Multi-service Center, in Casa Blanca, and funeral services were held on Wednesday, September 6, at 6 am at the Vah-Ki Presbyterian Church in District 5. Burial services were held at the Upper San Tan Cemetery.

Lewis Family Thank You Letter

Submitted by Lewis Family

Thank You

In Appreciation During Our Loss: The family of the late Robert Roe Lewis wishes to express its deepest appreciation and gratitude for the many expressions of sympathy and assistance extended to the family as we mourn the loss of our dear husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and cousin. To the following we extend our thanks:

The Caring House District 4 Service Center, District 5 Service Center, Gila River Police Department, Margro Hun

sickter, Tribal Social Services, Vah-ki Presbyterian Church and Choir, Lower Santan Presbyterian Church, Sacaton Flats Presbyterian Church, Elders and Deacons Association, Elders and Deacons Combined Board, Captain Anthony’s Catholic Church, Sacaton Presbyterian Church Choir, and was also the first Native American representative to their alumni association.

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Submitted by Betty Pablo

Sharon Kay (Lewis) Shelde was born on July 5, 1952 in Phoenix, AZ. She grew up in the Co Op Village, started school at the Gila Crossing Day School; after which she went to South Mountain High School, then on to the University of Wisconsin in 1968. After she came home she also went to a cosmetology school here in Phoenix and worked as a cosmetologist in the Phoenix area.

She was a member here at the Gila Crossing Presbyterian Church. She sang in the choir and helped with youth Bible School and also in the regular Sunday school when needed.

She married Terance Duane Shelde who passed on about 3 years later, leaving her widowed for about 40 years. But, she continued to work and care for her 3 boys.

Sharon started to work at the Gila Crossing School as a cultural instructor full time. She was still on other committees. She served on the Housing Committee and she was the District 6 Community Secretary/Treasurer for some time. Then she went back to school at South Mountain Community College for her teaching degree, which she achieved in 2014. She was very passionate about her job with the school and her students that she taught. At the school she worked with the girls to learn to do the Basket Dances. They went to dance at different events. She also taught adults at the Learning Center on Saturdays for those who wanted to learn the language.

These were just some of the things that Sharon did. She helped a lot of people even though she was handicapped. She still found the time and energy to do all of these things. A devoted and faithful fan of the Diamondbacks and the Arizona Cardinals, she cheered them on while attending a game or watching them on TV.

She will be greatly missed. However, we all knew that she believed in the Lord; he saw how tired she was getting. He took her home. She surely earned this rest, as her reward.

Sharon is survived by her three sons Timothy Shelde and his wife Linda Edmund Shelde and Cameron Lewis, her mother Betty and six sisters – Gloria, Alicia, Winona, Veronica, Wintefud and Juantia, three brothers – Roger, Clifton and Chester. She is also survived by four granddaughters – Elaine, Trinity, Penelope and Abigail; also, two grandsons – Aerol Shelda and Simeon Shelda.

And of course all of her church family. But she is now with the Lord and is at rest. Thank you all and God Bless.

A eulogy in honor of Sharon K. Shelde’s first anniversary

6TH ANNUAL JUSTICE & REMEMBRANCE WALK FOR GRIFFIN T. KUSH “LEWIS” & ALL OTHER VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES

Friday, October 13, 2017
S.E. Corner of Snaketown Housing

Walk will end at “Kush” Grandparents Home
The Late Bernard & Myra Lewis Residence in Vah-kí, District 5
NW Corner of Southern & Orchard

Everyone welcome, especially families of victims who are “Loved Ones”
Life was “VIOLENTLY TAKEN FROM US”

Please WE welcome all of you to join
Bunch served as soon as “Runners” come in. “Kush Grandparents Home.”
What does it taste like?

When you want to ask in O’otham what a certain food tastes like you can say Shá: kà:k? This question is formed using the verb kà:k (to taste good) or bi ap kà:k (to not taste good) to describe how things taste. As we learned a few months back O’otham has a specific word s-ko’ok that is used for spicy hot foods like kokol hithoḍ. If you wanted to ask if the chile stew is chile hot you can ask someone No s-ko’ok heg s-onk hithoḍ? The person that was asked can answer in many different ways, by simply stating Ha’o, or using a phrase like Ha’o, i:vo s-ko’ok if it’s really chile hot or Bi ‘o he’ek heg nalash/Bi siv heg kovhi:. Notice again that you do not say the word s-ko’ok in this sentence but take off the initial s sound to say onk. If you want to say that the orange is not sour you could say Bi ‘o he’ek heg nalash/Bi siv heg kovhi:. Notice that siv is different in that you do say the initial s sound that is dropped with the other taste words.

To state if a food has a particular taste you make a simple sentence using the verb together with the auxiliary verb ‘o and the food you are describing. For example if you want to say that the beans are salty you can say S-ko’ok ‘o heg siv kovhi:. Shá: ka:k? Match the taste sentence with its picture!

S-he’ek ‘o heg s-he’ek chu:ha.

S-ap ap ka:k heg s-ko’ok papan.

S-ko’ok ‘o heg kokol hithoḍ.

S-ap ap ka:k heg s-ko’ok hithoḍ?

S-s-ko'ok ‘o heg nalash vudag.

Siv ‘o heg kovhi:

Ivo’s sap ap ka:k heg chuchul nonna ch heg ko:jji.

Another verb that works in this same manner is the O’otham word s-na:k, which is the words used to describe food that you like to eat or that you like the taste of. For example if you wanted to tell someone that you like to eat potatoes you can say S-na:k ‘o heg ba:bua:ba:. Notice that in this sentence you don’t use the ‘o auxiliary but use the ‘a: auxiliary instead. This is because you are talking about yourself (a:ñi) and are stating what you like to eat. If you wanted to say that you like to eat tortillas (chechmeth) you would say S-na:k ‘a:he’ek heg chech-ma:th. And if you wanted to say that you like to eat spicy (chile hot) food you can say S-na:k ‘a:he’ek heg hithoḍ. But let’s say that you wanted to say that you didn’t like to eat something or didn’t like the taste of something. In this case you use the negation word bi and change the word s-na:k by dropping the initial s and use the word nak instead. For example, if you wanted to say that you didn’t like to eat onions you can say Bi ‘a:nak heg siv kovhi:. If you wanted to say that you didn’t like the taste of sour foods you can say Bi ‘añ na:k math ‘o he’ek heg hithoḍ. S-na:k is also used as a question when you want to ask someone if they like to eat a certain type of food or like the taste of a certain type of food. You can ask someone Nap s-na:k heg chuchul nonna ch heg ko:jji? if you want to know if they like to eat eggs and bacon Nap s-na:k ‘o heg hithoḍ? if you want to know if they like to eat squash and Nap s-na:k heg s-ko’ok hithoḍ? if you want to know if the person you’re talking to likes salty food.

This month’s word match will test your knowledge of the words to taste in O’otham. Remember the different words for tasting and how they are used and ask each other Shá: kà:k? next time you’re eating together.

NOW RECRUITING!

The AmeriCorps Program is currently seeking motivated individuals to Serve Gila River Veterans and the Environment in FULL or PART time service opportunities.

Applications are available at Gila River AmeriCorps Office 291 W. Casa Blanca Rd. Sacaton, AZ

For more information contact: Gila River AmeriCorps (520) 562-6221
Veterans Conference from Page 1

of service, Johns, who served in the Navy from 1955-1963, said a highlight of his military career was when he served two years on the renowned aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Midway.

“It was a good experience,” Johns said. “I toured the east coast, I toured that on the Midway…in 1957, 1958. We went to Pearl Harbor…and then we went to the Philippine islands, Okinawa, Midway Islands, then we ended up in Yokuska, Japan, that was our overseas home port,” he recalled.

Following the sessions, a banquet was held with MC Henry Pino telling jokes to the audience followed by music performed by the band Men in the Maze led by musician Bob Villa.

GRIC dignitaries Gov. Stephen Roe Lewis and Lt. Gov. Monica Antone each gave speeches thanking the veterans for their service to the country, and to the Community.

Antone said that she had just recently come back from a trip to Washington D.C., and during her time there, visited Ira H. Hayes’s grave in Arlington National Cemetery. She said while she was there, in front of his grave, she thanked him for his service and act of raising the American flag over the island of Iwo Jima. She said in the same way she thanked Ira Hayes during her visit to his grave, she also thanked the Community veterans in attendance at the banquet.

At the conference’s closing, Gov. Lewis took to the stage speaking on how important the inaugural event was in bringing well-earned resources to veterans, who otherwise may not know are available to them.

“This is very significant, very historic for our veterans, that we are starting something for them,” said Lewis. “It’s about bringing veterans together and acknowledging their contributions to the Community, and our nation,” he said.

“When I think of all the veterans, everyone who has paid the ultimate sacrifice, or come back home… it is important that we get those resources to all of our veterans, I think this veterans conference, this inaugural and historic Gila River Veterans Conference is a step in the right direction,” he said.

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At the conference’s closing, Gov. Lewis took to the stage speaking on how important the inaugural event was in bringing well-earned resources to veterans, who otherwise may not know are available to them.

“This is very significant, very historic for our veterans, that we are starting something for them,” said Lewis. “It’s about bringing veterans together and acknowledging their contributions to the Community, and our nation,” he said.

“When I think of all the veterans, everyone who has paid the ultimate sacrifice, or come back home… it is important that we get those resources to all of our veterans, I think this veterans conference, this inaugural and historic Gila River Veterans Conference is a step in the right direction,” he said.
In the following article the identity, location, and medical condition of the patron has been concealed for the sake of their privacy.

Accidents and life threatening situations can arise during the most inopportune and least expected times, which is why Gila River Hotels & Casinos’ emergency response team, working in conjunction with Gila River Emergency Medical Services (GREMS) and the Gila River Fire Department (GRFD) have been successful in keeping casino patrons healthy, happy, and at times, even saving their lives.

During a recent incident, a casino patron experienced a sudden life threatening condition where immediate treatment meant the difference between life and death.

Fortunately, Gila River Casino employs 14 security officers who are also qualified as EMTs throughout its three casinos; the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino, Lone Butte Hotel & Casino, and Vee Quiva Hotel & Casino.

Once the patron began suffering from their condition, the casinos emergency response team was dispatched to the scene.

Sera Ah Quin and Lisa Hunt found the patron unresponsive, which is when they deployed an automated external defibrillator (AED) and began performing CPR.

Quin, who is trained as an EMT, said this was the first experience she had utilizing her professional skills in a life or death situation.

“Wow, we brought someone back to life,” she said.

According to Mark Williams, Gila River Hotels & Casino’s Emergency Services Coordinator, while these types of life and death emergencies are not a common occurrence, it is vital for their staff to be trained for even the most difficult circumstances.

“This dramatic of an incident is not one that occurs every day, not even every year for that matter,” said Williams. “We are happy for its rarity, but it is a perfect example of why we must be prepared at any given moment. Currently, there are 14 security officers who are qualified as EMTs, and they are extremely valuable pieces to our enterprise,” he said.

Working together to keep patients healthy, happy, and alive, while Gila River Hotels & Casinos’ emergency response teams are typically first on scene during a medical emergency on casino properties, they are but one gear in a larger machine that makes up Gila River Indian Community’s emergency services.

It is the job of the casino’s emergency response staff to stabilize a patient by utilizing an AED or performing CPR until GREMS and GRFD arrive.

In the recent case of a casino patron suffering from a medical emergency, GREMS and GRFD assisted with the incident then transported the patient to the hospital.

This teamwork creates an environment of quick and high quality care that keeps patients healthy, happy, and alive.

Kevin Knight, Gila River EMS Deputy Chief, said, “We work very closely with (the casino emergency response team), they are usually there first...they start care and when we get there, we take over care and transport the patient.”

Chris Riddle, Gila River EMS Division Chief, said during high-risk calls, a GRFD engine and crew are also sent to help assist in performing high quality CPR.

“Especially during CPR or cardiac events, it is very taxing and fatiguing,” Riddle said. “High quality CPR should be done every two minutes, that is when the fatigue factor kicks in for personnel. On these types of calls it is always good to have those extra personnel, because every two minutes we are trying to cycle out (the personnel) doing compressions,” he said.

He added that a single paramedic performs 100 chest compressions every minute while conducting CPR. The level of physically demanding while performing high quality CPR can be strain on even the most fit paramedic, which is why it is important to have GRFD on scene to assist in stabilizing high-risk patients.

Knight said providing high quality CPR to patients is a team effort. They can be compared to a NASCAR pit crew.

“If you think about NASCAR, the car comes into pit row, and everyone has a very specific function,” he said. “Nobody is doing anybody else’s job. For us someone is responsible for maintaining the airway, somebody is responsible for chest compressions, somebody is responsible for administering an IV so we can administer life saving medications, somebody is in charge of rhythm interpretation and administering defibrillation, (and) somebody is in charge of documenting everything we do.

We need a lot of people to manage this type of patient and the fire department and the casino emergency services are our partners in that,” he said.

Keeping people alive and healthy is job number one for the casino’s emergency response team, GREMS, and GRFD. By working together they are making sure that no matter the emergency, patients will receive the best care possible.

“The relationship between the Gila River Fire Department, Gila River Emergency Medical Services and the emergency response team here is a crucial one,” said Williams. “We all need to complement each other and work as a team. Since we are already on site, the short time frame we have to be first responders can make the difference between life and death, while the GRFD and GREMS race to the scene.”
NABA-AZ awards law professionals and law students at annual dinner

For an organization of Native American law professionals that have been through the rigors of law school, helping current law school students achieve their academic goals is their way of giving back. Attorneys are expected to be fluent in all areas of law, representing tribes on important issues while encouraging the next generation of attorneys. "When you graduate, you’re an asset to building the Indian legal community," Gov. Lewis said.

According to NABA-AZ, since 2008 they’ve awarded over $65,000 in scholarships. In addition to Sabori, the recipients were coming from Crawford, Meredith Duarte, Brian Garcia, Alexander Mallory, James Mowdy, Dylan Raintree, Rani Williams, Candace Begody, Daune Cardenas, and Francisco Olae.

NABA-AZ honored the founding boardmembers on Sept. 9. From left Jeffery Harmon, Denten Robinson, Rodney Lewis, Patty Ferguson-Bohnee, Linda Benally, and Diandra Benally.

Gov. Lewis with Pete Sabori, a third year law student.

Roberto A. Jackson
Gila River Indian News

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Behavioral Health hosts a unique conference for suicide prevention

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Super heroes are often seen on the big screen, they are tough, brave and able to overcome the most formidable of obstacles.

In the Gila River Indian Community there are many heroes, some of which don’t wear a cape or dawn a flashy costume, but are like anyone of us, a common citizen of the Community.

The Gila River Health Care Behavioral Health Service prevention program has come up with a novel way of instilling the qualities of a super hero with Community youth at the Resilience Con 2017 held at the District 5 Multipurpose Building on Sept. 7.

BHS Prevention & Education Specialist Anna Pacheco said the workshop is about coming together and supporting each other, from the working professional to the youth, it’s about overcoming the obstacles found in life.

The all-day workshop was also meant to recognize Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month during the month of September.

Although, the topic of suicide is a sensitive subject to discuss, it presents opportunities for community youth and professionals to come together to promote the positive concepts like resiliency and empowerment.

“We wanted to host an event like this to show the youth how strong they are and to promote the idea of empowerment,” said Pacheco.

“That treatment is possible, help is possible and that hope is there and a big part of what is resiliency and how strong the Community can be,” she said, “We want to focus on the strengths and positives so of that we can say ‘yes to life,’ and come together to promote life and promote resilience.”

Throughout the day four breakout sessions were hosted on different topics meant to promote key strengths the youth can tap into to become more resilient, such as Overcoming Obstacles, Bounce back and Get Stronger, Jeopardy of Cope and Chasing Hope.

“The obstacle course… the whole meaning behind that is overcoming obstacles, so doing an obstacle course and talking about being able to overcome the obstacles in our life.”

“Even making Chumuth with Dewskie, a local food vendor, is about coming together and socializing and talking with each other…. you know [we] talk to each other while having fun and when we are coming together and making Chumuth,” said Pacheco, “We can also talk, if we are hurting or struggling and need someone to talk to.”

“Even for them to takeaway a special skill, it’s the main purpose for having a special day set aside for [them],” she said.

Pacheco said it is important for anyone, who is interested in learning more about coping and resiliency skills, should seek out the trainings offered by BHS.

She said workshops like the ASIST trainings, which stands for Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training are offered for adults who are interested in suicide prevention strategies.

The trainings last one hour to four hours or more, covering more extensive topics, that provide mental first aid to individuals in need of assistance.

The ASIST workshop for adults is more in-depth training that is free to attend within the Community.

Pacheco said, “Training is offered every month, not just in September. The more that people are trained, the safer our environment becomes, and, the call for action for each of us to learn suicide prevention skills is important.”

Christopher Lomahquahu
Gila River Indian News

Anna Pacheco presents at Resilience Con 2017, which was held at the District 5 Multipurpose Building on Sept. 7.

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The Gila River Indian Community is looking for volunteers to provide free tax preparation and help to their neighbors and other area residents in 2018. The IRS sponsors the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs. These two programs offer free tax help across the country for people with low-to-moderate incomes, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, those with limited English proficiency and Native Americans. This year, VITA and TCE volunteers prepared more than 3.5 million federal tax returns for all types of taxpayers at no cost. Tax volunteers can and do make a difference in their community.

Here are five reasons to become a VITA or TCE tax volunteer:

1. Flexible hours. Volunteers generally serve an average of three to five hours per week. The programs are usually open from mid-to-late January through the filing deadline in April with a few sites open all year.

2. VITA and TCE sites are often nearby. Over 11,000 sites were set up in neighborhoods all over the country for people with low-to-moderate incomes, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, those with limited English proficiency and Native Americans. This year, VITA and TCE volunteers prepared more than 3.5 million federal tax returns for all types of taxpayers at no cost. Tax volunteers can and do make a difference in their community.

3. No prior experience needed. Volunteers receive specialized training and often serve in a variety of roles. VITA and TCE programs want volunteers of all backgrounds and ages as well as individuals who are fluent in another language.

4. Free tax law training and materials. Tax volunteers receive training materials at no charge. The tax law training covers preparing basic federal tax returns electronically and learning about tax deductions, credits and allowable expenses that benefit eligible taxpayers.

5. Continuing education credits for tax pros. Enrolled Agents and non-credentialed tax return preparers can earn continuing education credits when volunteering as a VITA/ TCE instructor, quality reviewer or tax return preparer. Go to this IRS Fact Sheet for more information on Continuing Education Credits.

Taxpayers who volunteer are joining a program that has helped millions of people file tax returns at no cost for more than 40 years. Taxpayers who volunteer make a difference. This is people helping people and it’s that simple.

Here are some of the volunteer roles needed at the Gila River Indian Community free tax preparation site:

1. Greeter/Screener - You greet everyone visiting the site to create a pleasant atmosphere. You screen taxpayers to determine the type of assistance they need and confirm they have the necessary documents to complete their tax returns. Tax law certification is not required for this position.

2. Tax Preparer - You complete and successfully certify in tax law training, including the use of electronic filing software, to provide free tax return preparation for eligible taxpayers.

3. Quality Reviewer - You review tax returns completed by volunteer tax preparers, ensuring that every taxpayer receives top quality service and that the tax returns are error-free. You must be tax law certified at least at the Intermediate level.

To become a VITA tax volunteer, for the Gila River Indian Community please call (520) 562-9550 or contact Debra Baubie at debra.baubie@gric.nsn.us or Dena Thomas at dena.thomas@gric.nsn.us.
ANTHONY J. HILL for CHIEF JUDGE
VOTE SEPTEMBER 19

MY COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY:

* Create a Legal Services Office to provide advice and representation.
* Establish a Bar Association for attorneys and advocates.
* Propose laws that set judges’ qualifications and duties.
* Vigorously enforce child support orders.
* Issue child support orders for children who are in a relative’s custody.
* Establish Grandparents’ visitation rights.
* Longer sentences and no early release for repeat offenders.
* Increase substance abuse treatment as an alternative to jail.
* Ensure victims have a voice in the justice system.

Bachelor of Arts Degree,
Political Science and
Classics Studies,
University of Arizona

Law Degree,
Arizona State University
College of Law

Associate Judge
2006-2011

Chief Judge
2008 & 2012-2015

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October 23rd–27th
FREE for enrolled members of Gila River!
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COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACTION SHEETS

Courtesy of the Community Council Secretary’s Office • September 6, 2017

ACTION SHEET

Community Council, PO Box 2138; Sacaton, Arizona 85147; Phone (502) 562-9720; Fax (502) 562-9729

CALL TO ORDER

The First Regular Monthly Meeting of the Community Council held Wednesday September 6, 2017, in the Community Council Chambers at the Governance Center in Sacaton, Arizona was called to order by Council Secretary Shawn White at 9:06 a.m. Council Secretary White informed the Council Governor Lewis was on bereavement and Lt. Governor Antone was on travel.

MOTION WAS MADE AND SECOND TO NOMINATE ARZIE HOGG

CHAIRMAN HOGG PROCEEDED WITH THE AGENDA

INVOCATION

Provided by Councilman Terrance Evans

ROLL CALL

Sign-in Sheet Circulated Executive Officers Absent: Governor Stephen R. Lewis Lt. Governor Monica Antone Council Members Present: D1-Joey Whitman, Arzie Hogg; D2-Carol Schurz; D3-Carolyne Williams (9:45); Rodney Jackson; D4-Nada Celaya, Barney Eros, Jr., Pamela Johnson; D5-Janice Stewart (8:40), Martin Dixon, Franklin Pablo, Sr.; D6-Charles Goldtooth, Terrance Evans; D7-Devin Redbird (10:00)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVED AS AMENDED

PRESENTATIONS/INTRODUCTIONS (Limit to 5-minutes)

REPORTS


Presenter: Vaughn Flannigan

REPORT HEARD

2. 2017 Broadacres Lease Development Transaction Documents

Presenter: Ronald Rosier

REPORT HEARD

3. Travel Report-FY17 3rd Quarter

Presenters: Suzanne Johns, Treasurer Robert G. Keller

REPORT HEARD

4. Haskell Osffe-Antone American Legion Auxiliary Unit 51 FY17 3rd Quarter Donation Financial & Summary Report

Presenter: Alison Anderson

REPORT HEARD

5. SDPI Community Garden Project Plan

Presenter: Alvaro Carlez

REPORT HEARD

6. Opioid Abuse Data

Presenters: Dr. Jessica Doney, Susan Kelley

REPORT HEARD

MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION


Presenter: Robert Robertson, Chad Linse

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

8. Public Policy Partner FY-2017 Annual Report (Executive Session)

Presenters: I. Allen J. Gookin

REPORT HEARD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. Greenberg Traurig FY-2017 Annual Report (Executive Session)

Continued on page 16
Action Sheets from page 15

Of Ba'ag Nuhkutham Miguel Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with changes)
Presenter: Sheila Riley-White
APPROVED
13. A Resolution Approving The Petition For The Enrollment Of Ba'ag Nuhkutham Miguel Into The Gila River Indian Community (LSC forwards to Council with a recommendation for approval with changes)
Presenter: Sheila Riley-White
APPROVED
14. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Revenue Internal Audit’s Annual Audit Plan For Fiscal Year 2018 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with a recommendation for approval with changes)
Presenter: Sheila Riley-White
APPROVED
15. A Resolution Approving The Gila River Indian Community Gaming Internal Audit’s Annual Audit Plan For Fiscal Year 2018 (Executive Session) (G&MSC motioned to forward to Community Council with a recommendation for approval with changes)
Presenter: Sheila Riley-White
APPROVED
ORDINANCES
UNIFIED BUSINESS
1. National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Tribal Unity Days On September 12-13, 2017 (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council utilizing dues and delegations; H&SSC concurs)
Presenters: Elvis Evering, Thomas Murphy
MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE TRAVEL FOR MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL UTILIZING DUES AND DELEGATIONS
2. Native Language Teacher Certification (Executive Session) (CRSC concurs)
Presenters: Anthony Gray
MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO APPROVE [ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
3. District 6 Community Concern Prayer Group
Presenters: Councilman Terrance Evans
MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO DISPENSE CHAIRMAN HOGG DIRECTED COUNCIL SECRETARY WHITE TO REQUEST THE LAND USE PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT STAFF BE PRESENT.
[MOTION MADE AND SECOND TO SUSPEND THE RULES ADDING INCIDENT UPDATE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND FOLLOW UP TO THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MOTION OF OCTOBER 19, 2016]
MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION
4. Incident Update (Executive Session)
Presenters: Gila River Police Department, Community Council
MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE MATERIALS PROVIDED
NEW BUSINESS
1. Gila River Farms FY16 Audit (G&MSC motioned to forward to Council) Presenters: Anthony Gerlach
MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO APPROVE [ADDENDUM TO AGENDA]
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Still Putting Our People First!

Protecting Our Children
- More resources to protect our children in Foster placement.
- Creation of the Family Advocacy Center for Community families in crisis.

Fighting for Our Water
- Issued proclamation making 2015 "Year of Honoring Our Water Settlement."
- Protecting Community’s Water Settlement against drought.
- MARS Project “Bringing back the River” initiative.

Defending Our Sovereignty
- Resolving West Valley Casino Dispute.
- Negotiating with the state for increased gaming opportunities.
- 202/South Mountain Freeway Lawsuit filed and continuing at 9th Circuit Federal Court.

Advocating for Our Veterans
- Creation of the Community’s first Veteran’s and Family Services Unit.
- Held the Community’s first Veteran’s Summit.

Planning for Our Future
- ASU Sustainable Housing Initiative to design and construct energy efficient homes based on traditional materials.
- Climate Change Planning to protect our Community.
- Supporting and strengthening Gila River Farms.

Education and Opportunity
- Held the Community’s first Education Summit to hear from the People.
- Wi-Fi Initiative linking all 7 District Centers.
- Advocating for federal government to fund school construction for Community’s BIE schools.
- Creating Community’s first Day Labor Program.
Gila River Indian Community members receive $10 off tickets (enrollment card required). All discounts are per ticket and are available at the Players Club and Box Office only.

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SEPTEMBER 22

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